



Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs

Vet News: Week of Feb. 27, 2015

What's New This Week

- News & Announcements
 - County Updates
 - LRAFB Happenings
 - Upcoming Events & Meetings
 - Resources FYI
-

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Veterans Benefit Seminar Set for Mar. 19 at the Manila Community Center

Sponsored by the City of Manila and the Farmers' Market, a Veterans Benefits Seminar will be held Thursday, Mar. 19 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Manila Community Center, 855 Airport Road, Manila, AR. Registration will be held from 8:30 to 9 a.m.

Veterans can learn how to receive the benefits they may be entitled to, and service providers will be there to answer questions. Discussion topics include: How to file for VA benefits; eligibility requirements; service connected disabilities; pension benefits; DIC benefits; healthcare benefits; aid and attendance; caretaker program, burial benefits; workforce assistance.

Lunch will be provided and Wifi will be available. To pre-register for the seminar or for more information, contact Vermalene Smith, Craighead County VSO; phone (870) 933-4598 on Mondays and Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; phone (870) 237-4342 on Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Refer to event flyer attached to this newsletter.

Captioned Telephone Available at No Cost Through Heroes with Hearing Loss Program

Any Veteran with a qualified hearing loss can receive a Hamilton CapTel® captioned telephone at no cost through the Heroes with Hearing Loss program. Internet Protocol Captioned Telephone Service (IP CTS) is regulated and funded by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The FCC requires that an individual who does not pay \$75 or more for IP CTS equipment (CapTel® telephone), or obtains it through a government program, must provide certification that he/she has a hearing loss necessitating the use of captioned telephone service.



Certification must be obtained through an independent third-party professional and Hamilton CapTel® is not responsible for charges incurred in obtaining certification.

The independent third-party professional may be (but is not limited to) one of the following:

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Audiologist | • Speech Pathologist | • Hearing Instrument Specialist |
| • Doctor or Nurse | • Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor | • Social Worker/Service Provider |
| • Medical or Health Professional | • Occupational Therapist | • Educator |

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Just complete the Certificate of Hearing Loss/Order Form with your independent third-party professional today to receive the Hamilton CapTel® telephone.

The Heroes With Hearing Loss program flyer and Certificate of Hearing Loss/Order Form is attached to this newsletter.

For more information about the Heroes With Hearing Loss program, visit their website at www.heroeswithhearingloss.org. For more information about the Hamilton CapTel® telephone, visit their website at www.HamiltonCapTel.com/freedom.

Free Event Tickets Available for Veterans Through Vet Tix

The Veteran Tickets Foundation, aka Vet Tix, is a nationally recognized 501(c)(3) Veterans support organization whose mission is to "give something to those who gave." Vet Tix believes every person who honorably served our great country should be thanked for their service.

Vet Tix teams up with major sports teams, leagues, promoters, organizations, companies, venues and every day event ticket holders to provide free tickets to the more than 26 million active Military, Veterans and their families.

Tickets will always be free; however, individuals requesting tickets are required to pay the cost for mailing/delivering tickets. Visit www.vettix.org for more information or to sign up for free tickets.

Arkansas Veterans Education and Training Partnership (AVETP)

The Arkansas Department of Workforce Services (ADWS), in partnership with the Arkansas Community Colleges (ACC) (formerly the Arkansas Association of Two-Year Colleges (AATYC)), ARVets, and the Arkansas Apprenticeship Coalition (AAC) requested funding to provide veterans with increased opportunities for assessment, training, supportive services, employment, and retained employment in Arkansas. Specifically, the Arkansas Veterans Education and Training Partnership (AVETP) project will provide resources to a minimum of 450 veteran participants entered into training programs for targeted renewable and energy efficiency industries, healthcare professions, and other occupations that are identified as high demand occupations in Arkansas.

The term "veteran" means an individual who served in the active military, naval, or air service and who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable [WIA 101(49)].

TO BE CONSIDERED, a Veteran must meet ONE of the following eligibility criteria:

- Veterans with service-connected disabilities;
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- Veterans who have been recently separated (those within 48 months of discharge).

Funding available:

- Up to \$1,000 to assist with training costs for eligible Veterans
- Up to \$500 for supportive services to eligible Veterans

Veterans to be served over the life of the AVETP Grant Program will be a minimum of 900 Veterans assessed, 450 Veterans enrolled and 356 Veterans entered employment.

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The AVETP Grant Program has other eligibility requirements. To determine if you are eligible, contact Teiraney Ousley at ARVets. See the AVETP circular attached to this newsletter.

Arkansas Job-Driven Training Grant Can Help Unemployed and Dislocated Workers Acquire Needed Skills for Specialized Job Fields

- **ADVANCED MANUFACTURING:** Multi-Craft Industrial/Mechanical/Electrical (Entry-Level Maintenance Technician)
- **HEALTH CARE:** Medical Coding and Billing
- **COMMERCIAL DRIVER DEVELOPMENT:** Over-the-Road Driving

Tuition is paid and up to \$1,000 in supportive services. Eligible individuals may receive program benefits regardless of where they reside.

For more information or to find out if you meet the eligibility criteria, please contact Carmen Hensley or Della Winford, Program Coordinators; phone (479) 474-7061. See the AR JD Training Grant flyer attached to this newsletter.

COUNTY UPDATES

Desha County

- The Desha County Veteran Service Office's Dumas office location day is changed to Mondays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Fulton County

- The Fulton County Veteran Service Office is closed temporarily and will reopen on Mar. 4.

Greene County

- The Greene County Veteran Service Office has changed its hours to Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Tuesdays from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.; and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Johnson County

- The Johnson County Veteran Service Office will be closed temporarily from Mar. 20-29, 2015. During this period, please visit the VSO in neighboring counties if possible.

Monroe County

- The Monroe County Veteran Service Office is in transition. Please visit the VSO in neighboring counties if possible.

Polk County

- The Polk County Veteran Service Office is in transition. Please visit the VSO in neighboring counties if possible.

Pulaski County

- The Pulaski County Veteran Service Office is in transition. Please visit the VSO in neighboring counties if possible, or visit the VSOs in the ADVA Claims and Appeals office, 2200 Fort Roots Drive, Building 65, Room 119, North Little Rock, AR 72114; phone (501) 370-3820.

LRAFB HAPPENINGS

Retiree Breakfast Meetings

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Third Friday of each month, except for Retiree Appreciation Day in October:

- March 20
- April 17
- May 15
- June 19
- July 17
- August 21
- September 18
- October 24 (Retiree Appreciation Day)
- November 20
- December 18

Location: Hangar 1080; breakfast line opens at 0815 hours; cost: \$6.00. For more information, contact John S. Heffernan, CW2 USA Retired, 19AW/CVR, 1255 Vandenberg Blvd., Suite 121, LRAFB, AR; phone: (501) 987-6095; toll free: 1-877-815-3111; email: john.heffernan.2@us.af.mil.

Immunizations

The Immunizations Section's operating hours are Monday-Friday, 0800-1600; phone (501) 987-2927. The following immunizations are now available:

- Flu Shot - All ID card holders on Tricare, Tricare for Life, Phenomena shots, age 65 or older.
- Shingles Shot - All ID card holders on Tricare, Tricare for Life, age 65, and must have a prescription from their doctor.

UPCOMING EVENTS & MEETINGS

To add an event, send an email with details to donna.taylor@arkansas.gov.

Mar. 20, 2015

- LRAFB Retiree Breakfast meeting; LRAFB Hangar 1080; breakfast line opens at 0815 hours; cost: \$6.00

Mar. 20-22, 2015

- "Arkansas Run for the Fallen" 146 mile memorial run will kick off from the Ozark City Hall at 10 a.m., Friday, Mar. 20 and finish Sunday, Mar. 22 on the steps of the Arkansas State Capitol at approximately 2 p.m., with the ceremony at 2:30 p.m.

Mar. 21, 2015

- Free screening of the documentary film *Last Days in Vietnam*; 2 p.m.; CALS Ron Robinson Theater, 100 River Market Avenue, Little Rock, AR

Mar. 28, 2015

- "10th Annual Tribute to Fallen Heroes Ceremony" hosted by Michael Vann Johnson, Jr. American Legion Post #74; 11 a.m., Sherwood Forest, 1111 West Maryland Avenue, Sherwood, AR

Apr. 17, 2015

- LRAFB Retiree Breakfast meeting; LRAFB Hangar 1080; breakfast line opens at 0815 hours; cost: \$6.00

Apr. 21, 2015

- Arkansas Veterans' Commission meeting; 10 a.m.; conference room in the Arkansas Veterans Home at Fayetteville, 1125 North College Avenue, Fayetteville, AR

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May 2, 2015

- *8th Annual 100 Mile Red Ball Convoy*, hosted by the Arkansas Military Vehicle Preservation (AR MVPA), will begin at the Lake Dardanelle Park pavilion HQ in Russellville at 8 a.m. There will be a drivers meeting at the pavilion at 7:30 a.m. All eras of military vehicles are welcome. \$25 registration fee. Veterans are invited to attend and participate. Contact Steve Lee Smith at (314) 607-6074 or email Steve at steveleesmith@hotmail.com. Additional information and registration available at www.armvpa.com; click on the Red Ball Convoy page link.

May 15, 2015

- LRAFB Retiree Breakfast meeting; LRAFB Hangar 1080; breakfast line opens at 0815 hours; cost: \$6.00

May 16, 2015

- 19th Annual "Veterans Information Fair" hosted by the Texarkana Area Chapter #278 of the Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.; 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Southwest Center, 3222 W. Seventh Street, Texarkana, AR.

May 25, 2015

- State of Arkansas Memorial Day Ceremony; 10 a.m.; Arkansas State Veterans Cemetery, 1501 West Maryland Avenue, North Little Rock, AR

May 30, 2015

- Arkansas Freedom Fund bike ride; registration opens at 7 a.m.; ride starts at 8 a.m.; Veterans' Memorial Pavilion at Lake Fayetteville, Fayetteville, AR

Jun. 19, 2015

- LRAFB Retiree Breakfast meeting; LRAFB Hangar 1080; breakfast line opens at 0815 hours; cost: \$6.00

Jul. 17, 2015

- LRAFB Retiree Breakfast meeting; LRAFB Hangar 1080; breakfast line opens at 0815 hours; cost: \$6.00

Jul. 25, 2015

- 3rd Annual Vintage Military Vehicle Show at the MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History, 503 East 9th Street, Little Rock, AR 72202; website: www.arkmilitaryheritage.com. All military vehicles are welcome. Contact Stephan McAteer for additional information; phone: 501-376-4602; fax: 501-376-4597.

Aug. 21, 2015

- LRAFB Retiree Breakfast meeting; LRAFB Hangar 1080; breakfast line opens at 0815 hours; cost: \$6.00

Sep. 18, 2015

- LRAFB Retiree Breakfast meeting; LRAFB Hangar 1080; breakfast line opens at 0815 hours; cost: \$6.00

Sep. 25-26, 2015

- *15th Annual Petit Jean Military Vehicle Rally and Swap Meet*, hosted by the Arkansas Military Vehicle Preservation (AR MVPA) in conjunction with the Antique Auto Swap Meet and Show. All Veterans are welcome and admission is free. Spaces available for camping/vendors. Meals will be served from a Vietnam Field Kitchen. Additional information and registration available at www.armvpa.com; click on the Petit Jean Rally page link. Point of contact for the event is Paul Harless, (501) 723-5530, or email plheh38@hughes.net.

Oct. 24, 2015

- 37th Annual LRAFB Retiree Appreciation Day; LRAFB Hangar 1080; activities start at 8:00 a.m. with the opening ceremony and close at 1:00 p.m.

Nov. 20, 2015

- LRAFB Retiree Breakfast meeting; LRAFB Hangar 1080; breakfast line opens at 0815 hours; cost: \$6.00

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Dec. 18, 2015

- LRAFB Retiree Breakfast meeting; LRAFB Hangar 1080; breakfast line opens at 0815 hours; cost: \$6.00
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RESOURCES FYI

Operation Homefront

Operation Homefront assists military families during difficult financial times by providing food assistance, auto and home repair, vision care, travel and transportation, moving assistance, essential home items, and financial assistance.

TaxHelp.org

This tax guide helps military personnel better understand how they should be filing taxes, what tax deductions and extensions they are eligible for, and what benefits their dependents and spouses are allowed. Veterans will also find their state's VA office and contact information to determine if there are unique state tax benefits.

Troops to Teachers

Troops to Teachers (TTT) was established in 1994 as a Department of Defense (DOD) program. Managed by the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) in Pensacola, FL, TTT helps current military personnel and veterans successfully transition to second careers in teaching.

Arkansas Freedom Fund

The Arkansas Freedom Fund (AFF) was established in 2010 to support military personnel, veterans, wounded veterans, and their families. AFF helps them to get outdoors and be active and healthy, and mainly focuses on rehabilitative and recreational sporting events designed for the warriors to participate and experience all aspects of recovery and reintegration.

ARVets

The mission of ARVets is to enhance the overall quality of life for military personnel, veterans and their families by improving access to resources and strengthening support systems through all phases of the military life cycle. ARVets will proactively offer more innovative ideas and methods to deliver services and focus on a grassroots case-management approach.

ESGR

ESGR, a Department of Defense office, was established in 1972 to promote cooperation and understanding between Reserve Component Service members and their civilian employers and to assist in the resolution of conflicts arising from an employee's military commitment. ESGR is supported by a network of more than 4,900 volunteers in 54 committees located across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam-CNMI, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Military OneSource

Confidential services, including non-medical counseling and specialty consultations, are available through Military OneSource. Eligible individuals may receive confidential services at no cost.

A service of the [Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs](#) Public Information Office, 501 Woodlane Drive, Suite 230C, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201, Vet News is a weekly newsletter providing information of interest to Veterans, Veteran Service Officers, and others. The information comes from a variety of sources and does not necessarily constitute an opinion or position endorsed by ADVA.

The newsletter is distributed via email to members of the Arkansas Veterans' Commission, the Arkansas Veterans Coalition, ADVA Veteran Service Officers, County Veteran Service Officers, and individuals requesting to be added to the ADVA email distribution list. To be removed from the ADVA email distribution list, click [here](#) and type "Remove Me" in the subject line of the email.

Veterans Benefit Seminar

Thursday, March 19, 2015

9am-3pm

Registration 8:30 a.m - 9 a.m.

Manila Community Center
855 Airport Road
Manila, AR

Lunch will be provided

**Learn how to receive the benefits
you may be entitled to.**

Topics for Discussion:

- How to file for VA Benefits
- Eligibility Requirements
- Service Connected Disabilities
- Pension Benefits
- DIC Benefits
- Healthcare Benefits
- Aid and Attendance
- Caretaker Program
- Burial Benefits
- Workforce Assistance

**Service Providers will be there to
answer any questions.**

**To Pre-Register
Contact Vermalene Smith**

WWII
Korean
Viet Nam

(870) 933-4598
WiFi is available.

Gulf
OEF/OIF
Afghanistan

Sponsored by the City of Manila and Farmers' Market

Heroes With Hearing Loss® Program

HEROES
WITH HEARING LOSS

Certificate of Hearing Loss/Order Form

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Love your Smartphone or Tablet? Hamilton CapTel has an app that's just a download away. Prefer a PC or Mac solution? Hamilton CapTel is available wherever you have an Internet-connected computer or laptop and a phone.

Now you can access Hamilton CapTel on your favorite device just about anywhere life takes you – at home, at work or on the go – at no cost. Just complete the Certificate of Hearing Loss/Order Form with your independent third-party professional today to receive the Hamilton CapTel phone. To use Hamilton CapTel on a PC/Mac, Smartphone or Tablet, register for a Hamilton CapTel account today (no certification required) - visit www.HamiltonCapTel.com/freedom.

Want your phone shipped for free? We thought you might – that's why we've included Promo Code HWHL0114!

Internet Protocol Captioned Telephone Service (IP CTS) is regulated and funded by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and is designed exclusively for individuals with hearing loss. In order to use IP CTS, you must have telephone service and high-speed Internet connectivity where the phone will be used.



Captioned Telephone



Smartphones



Tablets



PC/Mac

Heroes With Hearing Loss® Program

TO BE COMPLETED BY VETERAN:

The following are **MANDATORY** for use and operation of the Hamilton CapTel phone.

- ☐ I understand the Hamilton CapTel 840i requires telephone service connectivity AND high-speed Internet connectivity (wired or WiFi) to operate.
- ☐ Yes, I have high-speed Internet and telephone service connectivity where the phone will be used.
- ☐ No, I do not have high-speed Internet and wish to be contacted to learn about other Hamilton CapTel options.
(Charges may apply depending on solution.)

VETERAN'S ACCOUNT REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

Veteran's First Name*	Middle Initial	Last Name*	
Address*	City*	State*	Zip*
Telephone Number*	E-mail* (Only to be used for order confirmation)		
Branch of Service*	Dates of Service*		
Veteran's Signature*			

Veteran authorizes the below named professional to transmit this certification and the information contained herein to Hamilton CapTel.

TO BE COMPLETED BY AN INDEPENDENT THIRD-PARTY PROFESSIONAL: (see reverse for eligible professionals)

I certify that this applicant is a Veteran with a hearing loss that necessitates the use of Captioned Telephone Service to communicate in a manner that is functionally equivalent to telephone service experienced by individuals without hearing difficulties. I further certify that I have not been offered nor provided any direct or indirect incentive (financial or otherwise) tied to this consumer's decision to use the service. I further certify that no joint marketing arrangement exists between myself/my organization and Hamilton CapTel, and I have not made, nor do I have the opportunity to make a profit on the sale of IP CTS equipment to consumers.

Name*	Title*		
Business/Agency*			
Address*	City*	State*	Zip*
Telephone Number*	E-mail*		
Signature*	Date*		

*Required fields. In order to process your request, all fields must be completed.

Please submit the signed certification via one of the following methods:

Scan Form & E-mail to: Order@HeroesWithHearingLoss.org

Fax Form to: 877-300-6686 (Please verify fax delivery: Call 877-455-4227 or send e-mail: Order@HeroesWithHearingLoss.org)

Mail Form to: Heroes With Hearing Loss, c/o Hamilton CapTel • 1006 12th Street • Aurora, NE 68818

Promo Code: HWHL0114

At time of shipment, an e-mail confirmation will be sent to the e-mail address you provided. Delivery of your Hamilton CapTel phone typically takes 1-2 weeks. If you have any questions, please contact Customer Care at 877-455-4227. Limit one CapTel Phone per household.



Federal law prohibits anyone but registered users with hearing loss from using IP Captioned telephones with the captions turned on.



ARKANSAS VETERANS EDUCATION & TRAINING PARTNERSHIP (AVETP)

Partnerships

- ARVets
- Arkansas Department of Workforce Services
- Arkansas Community Colleges
- Arkansas Apprenticeship Coalition

The Arkansas Department of Workforce Services (ADWS), in partnership with the Arkansas Community Colleges (ACC) (formerly the Arkansas Association of Two-Year Colleges (AATYC)), ARVets, and the Arkansas Apprenticeship Coalition (AAC) requested funding to provide veterans with increased opportunities for assessment, training, supportive services, employment, and retained employment in Arkansas. Specifically, the Arkansas Veterans Education and Training Partnership (AVETP) project will provide resources to a minimum of 450 veteran participants entered into training programs for targeted renewable and energy efficiency industries, healthcare professions, and other occupations that are identified as high-demand occupations in Arkansas.

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The AVETP Grant Program has other eligibility requirements.

To determine IF you are eligible, please contact Teiraney Ousley at ARVets.

ARVets

Teiraney Ousley
4704 West Commercial Drive
Suite B
North Little Rock, AR 72116
teiraney.ousley@arvets.org
(501) 246-5341

AAC

Karen Breashears
518 South 6th
Arkadelphia, AR 71923-6011
karen@natf.us
(870) 246-0320

ACC

Kyla Waters
1400 W Markham, Ste 402
Little Rock, AR 72201
kwaters@aatyc.org
(501) 371-0404

Lisa Ferrell
Project Coordinator
(501)371-1024
lisa.ferrell@arkansas.gov

Mark Mc Manus
Accountability Specialist
(501)978-3953
mark.mcmanus@arkansas.gov

Rebecca Edwards
Administrative
(501)682-3264
rebecca.edwards@arkansas.gov

To determine IF you are eligible, please contact:

Rebecca Edwards (501) 682-3264

rebecca.edwards@arkansas.gov

ARKANSAS VETERANS EDUCATION & TRAINING PARTNERSHIP (AVETP)

This project will utilize the following strategies to increase the number of eligible veterans in Arkansas who complete industry-recognized training programs and acquire gainful employment:

- 1) Utilize an individualized case management approach coupled with supportive services to ensure the success of the veteran participant throughout the process from assessment to employment placement and retention;
- 2) Leverage public/private resources provided by the diverse project implementation partners to access innovative training opportunities and pathways to high-growth jobs.

The proposed performance outcomes will be 80% of participants enrolling in industry recognized training opportunities that will complete training, an Employment Placement Rate of 75% and an Employment Retention Rate (ERR) of 65%. Participants who enter employment will be evaluated through the 90-day, 180-day, and 270-day employment retention follow-up periods after a participant is employed.



Jobs for People. People for Jobs.

DWS
Department of
WORKFORCE**Services**

www.arjoblink.com



UNEMPLOYED? ASK ABOUT FREE TRAINING!



ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

Multi-Craft Industrial/
Mechanical/Electrical
(Entry-Level Maintenance Technician)



HEALTH CARE

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COMMERCIAL DRIVER DEVELOPMENT

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CALL TODAY!

Learn how the Arkansas
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help YOU get the skills you need
for these specialized fields!

NO COST
to eligible individuals!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Carmen Hensley or Della Winford, Program Coordinators
Tel. 479.474.7061

Jobs for People. People for Jobs.
DWS
Department of
WORKFORCE Services

GET SKILLED.SM
CERTIFIED.
A JOB.

ARKANSAS
WORKFORCE
CENTERS
Bringing People and Jobs Together.SM

A proud partner of the
americanjobcenter
network